

1792A
EA-02-12
Congdon Creek
Aquatic Project

April 17, 2002

Concerned Citizen,

The Coast Range Resource Area of the Eugene District Bureau of Land Management has completed the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Preliminary Finding of No Significant (FONSI) for the Congdon Creek Aquatic Habitat Improvement Project. The proposed project area is located in Sections 29, T. 15 S., R. 7 W. and Section 31, T. 15 S., R. 6 W., Will. Mer.

You have expressed an interest in receiving copies of Environmental Assessments for district projects. Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment for your review and any comments. Public notice of this proposed action will be published in the Eugene Register Guard on April 17, 2002. The EA will also be available on the internet at <http://www.edo.or.blm.gov/nepa>. The public comment period will end on May 2, 2002. Please submit comments to me at the district office, by mail or by e-mail at OR090mb@or.blm.gov by close of business (4:15 p.m.) on or prior to May 2, 2002. If you have any questions concerning this proposal, please feel free to call Leo Poole at 683-6289.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the district office, 2890 Chad Drive, Eugene, Oregon during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the EA or other related documents. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Calish
Field Manager

Enclosure

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT
CONGDON CREEK AQUATIC HABITAT
RESTORATION PLAN**

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT No. OR090-EA-02-12

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE AND NEED

Congdon Creek is a fourth order tributary of Lake Creek (a Siuslaw River tributary) with origins located in the Central Coast Range, Western Lane County, Oregon. The head waters begin in T15S, R7W, Section 20. Congdon Creek originates from the north near the ridge that separates it from Upper Lake Creek and from the west near the ridge that separates it from Lobster Creek of the Alsea system. It flows in a generally southeast direction to the confluence with Lake Creek in T15S, R7W, Section 35. Harvesting of timber resources, agriculture and human settlement and related habitat alteration and harvests of fish have led to fish runs that number a fraction of their original size in the Siuslaw River and Lake Creek basin. Prior to stream work in the mid 90's, stream habitats for coho, steelhead, kokanee and cutthroat in Congdon Creek had been degraded or reduced in number in response to recent human activity. A stream habitat restoration project is proposed along Congdon Creek in T15S, R7W, section 29. The purpose of this restoration plan as related to the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives (ACS) is to improve the quality and quantity of appropriate habitats in the middle stream reaches of the Congdon Creek drainage to benefit all fish species, other aquatic organisms, riparian plant communities, and wildlife species found here.

Swartz Creek originates from the divide between the Lake Creek basin and the Alsea and Willamette River basins in an area referred to as High Pass. It flows in a generally southwestern direction to join Lake Creek. Two culvert projects along South Fork Swartz Creek are proposed, one is an improved access project and the other is a culvert removal with road stabilization. The two culverts are both located in T15S, R6W, Section 31. The purpose of the culvert projects as related to the ASC objectives is to improve aquatic species passage and also address public safety issues. The site specific analysis of future restoration proposals described herein will be tiered to this document.

B. CONFORMANCE

The proposed action and alternatives are in conformance with the *Record of*

Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl, April 1994 (ROD), and the Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, June 1995 (Eugene District ROD/RMP) as amended by the Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management January 2001. The analysis contained in these Environmental Impact Statements (EIS's) are incorporated into this document by reference.

The proposed action and alternatives are also in conformance with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy in the Northwest Forest Plan. Information summarized in the Congdon Creek Aquatic Habitat Restoration Plan is from the Eugene District Lake Creek Watershed Analysis (June 1995). Information and analysis are also tiered to the Eugene District Lake Creek Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (LCAHMP) OR090-EA-00-20.

The proposed action and alternatives (except the no action) are consistent with management triggers and criteria identified in table 7, Late-Successional Reserve Assessment, Oregon Coast Province-Southern Portion (R0267, R0268), June 1997.

The proposed action would follow general conditions related to fill removal activities as listed in permit (FP-23692) issued by the Oregon Department of State Lands (June 19, 2001).

II. ISSUES

A. ISSUES SELECTED FOR ANALYSIS

Issue 1: Would the proposed stream enhancement affect the attainment of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) objectives?

Issue 2: What are the effects on Special Status Species as a result of the proposed action?

Issue 3: How would the proposed action affect Late Successional Reserve (LSR) and Riparian Reserve (RR) objectives?

III. PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

A. PROPOSED ACTION

This EA covers -

- Congdon Creek Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project
- Swartz Creek Culvert Project 1 - Improved Aquatic Organisms Access
- Swartz Creek Culvert Project 2 - Culvert Removal

Potential restoration activities in Congdon Creek include placement of channel structures in Congdon Creek and increasing the amount and size of conifers in the riparian area.

1. Channel Structure

Channel structuring involves placement of materials in the channel to raise the channel elevations and to increase the complexity of habitat in the channel. Materials used in this process are primarily logs, boulders, stumps, rock and gravel. Designs are based on existing structural features occurring naturally in the system, and on structures previously developed by the Eugene District, other BLM Districts, or other agencies. Proposed structures are designed to be specific to a location, and take into account existing channel and riparian features. Proposed placements should occur in project year 1 along the Congdon Creek stream reaches in T15S, R7W, Section 29. The proposed habitat restoration area starts near the 28/29 section line and ends along the west side of BLM stockpile #09-44. The habitat restoration reach is approximately 1200 stream feet. The confluence of Congdon Creek and North Fork Congdon Creek occurs within the habitat restoration reach. Restoration work along N. Fork Congdon Creek, from the confluence and extending 300 feet upstream, is also proposed (refer to attachments A, B & C).

Off site materials may be delivered to designated project sites well in advance of project work and stockpiled at the project site; or they may be delivered to the site at the time they will be used, reducing the need for stockpiling and handling.

Creation of structural features utilizes some hand work, but primarily involves use of heavy equipment to deliver and place the materials. Once in place, the larger structural materials are generally anchored to the substrate using cables and epoxy. Smaller logs, rock and gravel may be allowed to move in response to the current. Because of the lack of retention features, many of the materials, particularly logs and stumps, would move out of the river system if not anchored. Once anchored, they create collection points to retain placed material or materials entering the channel from adjoining slopes.

The use of heavy equipment is proposed for moving and placing the structural materials. Structural materials for most project work would be delivered to the

channel and placed in position in the channel using spiders (walking excavators), excavators, front end loaders or similar equipment. Temporary access is generally created from existing roads through the riparian area to the channel. Most access routes would be less than 200 feet in length. The development and rehabilitation of the access routes are designed to reduce the potential for erosion and channel disturbance, and in many locations utilize existing older roads and accesses.

Several types of channel structures are proposed. The structures are placed in combinations in and along the channel. Design depends upon the existing conditions and potential of the site. The following descriptions are for the general types of structures used:

- a. Weirs. Weirs are full-spanning structures of logs, boulders and/or stumps. They extend up the bank to protect against erosion around the end of the weir. The height and length depend on the individual site conditions.
- b. Jetties. Jetties are structures of boulders, logs and/or stumps extending from the bank into the channel but not spanning the channel. They are designed to redirect flow and to create diverse habitats along the margins of the channel.
- c. Ramp logs. Ramp logs are logs with one end up on the bank and the other end extending into the channel. They function similarly to jetties.
- d. Log and boulder placement. Individual or clusters of logs, boulders, and/or stumps are placed in the channel in various positions to break up flows, create small islands, and increase habitat diversity.
- e. Gravel placement. Although natural gravel delivery is not a limiting factor to the stream channel, gravels may be placed in the channel, below and above culvert replacement sites to facilitate development of salmonid spawning and insect production (fish food) areas. Gravel is usually placed in the channel above the locations where it is needed, and the current is used to distribute the gravel to the structures. However, a stone slinger could be used to deliver gravels directly to a specific project site.

2. Culvert Rehabilitation

Culverts may create barriers to the movements of anadromous fish and other aquatic species, and contribute to modifications in natural hydrologic processes that may create flood and erosion hazards. Two types of rehabilitation projects are proposed in the Swartz Creek Basin (refer to attachments D & E).

- a. Improved access. For culverts creating a barrier to movements of anadromous fish and other aquatic organisms, and where removal or replacements are not feasible, access to the culvert may be created or improved by placement of structural material in the channel. This structural material would be primarily logs and boulders placed to elevate the stream channel and create pools to facilitate movement into the culvert. Short-term disturbance of the stream channel and stream bank may occur as a result of accessing the channel with equipment and materials, and from working within the stream channel.
- b. Removal. Culverts are removed and not replaced. The removal involves digging out and lifting the culvert. The channel where the culvert is removed is shaped and stabilized to reduce the potential for erosion.

An improved access project, along South Fork Swartz Creek (Swartz Creek Culvert Project 1), is proposed for completion in project year 1. The large culvert is located on the mainstem of South Fork Swartz Creek and placed underneath the 15-6-31 road. The culvert is approximately 200 feet from the intersection between the 15-6-31 road and county road 3455. The culvert has an approximate 2 foot drop at the effluent end. This drop is a low flow barrier to all aquatic organisms. Below the effluent end of the culvert, installation of a rock weir/staggered boulder structure is proposed. This structure would raise the water level in the creek and facilitate aquatic migration through the culvert.

An old log culvert removal and cross drain removal project (Swartz Creek Culvert Project 2), along South Fork Swartz Creek, is proposed for completion in project year 1. The culvert is located on an unnamed tributary underneath road 15-6-31.2. The culvert is approximately 200 feet from the intersection of road 15-6-31.2 and county road 3455. The public, in motorized vehicles, is crossing the structure after bypassing a barrier that was constructed to restrict vehicle traffic. This unwanted activity is causing silt to enter the tributary. The rotten log culvert has deteriorated to the point that it is considered a public hazard and in the interest of public safety should be removed. The onsite logs would be relocated, augmented with additional logs and boulders, forming a new habitat structure. An additional benefit would be improved aquatic species passage and reduced siltation in the tributary. Road 15-6-31.2 is identified under the Transportation Management Plan for closure. A cross drain, that is approximately 500 feet from the intersection of road 15-6-31.2 and county road 3455, would be removed. Prior to the removal, waterbars would be installed on the road, south of the cross drain.

3. Riparian Restoration

The purpose of riparian restoration is to increase the percentage of conifers in the riparian area as a future source of large woody material in the channel, and snags

and woody debris in the riparian area. The riparian zones contain red alder, big leaf maple and mixed-age conifers. Restoration efforts are planned primarily for the red alder dominated communities.

In developing accesses from existing roads into the stream channels, routes are selected that facilitate riparian restoration. Red alder and a few small douglas fir trees along the access routes would be removed, with the downed trees placed in nearby riparian areas or in the stream channel. Additional red alder may be removed in small patches adjoining the access routes to reduce shading in planting sites. Brush may be removed from additional adjoining sites. The sites where trees and brush are removed from the access routes are not usually subsoiled. Trees are felled using chain saws or other hand equipment or felled using heavy equipment (i.e., excavator). Brush is generally removed in areas where trees are felled. Conifers and larger big leaf maple are preserved wherever possible. Where younger conifers are present, competing vegetation may be removed to release conifers and hasten structural development.

During the subsequent planting season, usually the winter months following site preparation, trees are planted in the prepared locations. Species for planting include douglas fir, western red cedar and western hemlock, depending on the site conditions and proposed species mix. Trees are generally tubed to reduce browsing. Competing vegetation may be controlled by placing mats around the trees, or by brushing during subsequent years. An existing riparian conversion area, to the west of the stockpile #09-44, would be replanted with western red cedar.

4. Road Stabilization

Several options are identified for addressing problems to the aquatic system created by roads. Options identified for road rehabilitation may include:

- a. Improved drainage. In addition to modifying culverts, drainage may be improved by water-barring, providing sub-surface drains, improving ditching, or other steps that would reduce erosion hazard, reduce water interception, and reduce hazards for slope and fill failure. Road cuts and fills may be treated to reduce erosion and potential for slumping.
- b. Road closure. Roads may be barricaded to limit or eliminate traffic, subsoiled and planted, or reshaped by moving road fill so that the land surface more closely resembles natural contours. To reestablish natural drainage patterns roads may be bladed so that the existing gravel lift is moved into the ditch line and concentrated flows are reduced. Water bars, rolling dips and the out sloping of the road prism would direct surface water to the forest floor. As mentioned in the proposed action, under culvert rehabilitation, culverts and

cross drains could be removed as part of closing Road 15-6-31.2. Drain dips would be established at the cross drain removal locations and stream bank slopes and channels would be re-established at the stream locations where culverts are removed and not replaced. Vegetation removed during the riparian conversion process may be placed on the road to provide slash and organic debris to the mineral soil and as a filter strip designed as sediment barriers.

5. Monitoring

Prior to implementation of culvert replacement work, additional sampling to estimate current juvenile salmonid, other fish species populations and amphibian presence may be conducted in selected habitats using seining/electrofishing. Reference macroinvertebrate samples may also be collected at some sites above the barrier culverts prior to replacement.

B. ALTERNATIVE 2 - Congdon Habitat Site

Implement the proposed Congdon Creek habitat restoration. Do not implement the two culvert projects on Swartz Creek. Impacts of these actions would be the same as the Proposed Action. The difference would be in the scope, with fewer positive or negative short or long term impacts.

C. ALTERNATIVE 3 - No Action

Under a No Action Alternative, no additional actions would be taken to increase stream structure, remove culverts, restore riparian areas or stabilize roads. Culvert and road work already occur as part of the district road maintenance program. However, the emphasis would be on road stability and not on assisting with recovery of the aquatic system and its associated fauna. Under the No Action alternative, no stream channel restoration would be done, and riparian restoration would be primarily associated with vegetation manipulation carried out for other purposes. Both the stream and riparian habitats would be expected to show only very gradual recovery over a much longer period of time as a result of management actions taken under this alternative.

D. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED But not Analyzed

1. Stream Restoration with horses. This method was considered as a low impact alternative to heavy equipment. Past experience with this method has shown that horses are not capable of pulling the size of logs proposed for this project.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

A. GENERAL SETTING

Congdon Creek

Congdon Creek is one of the three major tributaries of Lake Creek above Triangle Lake (the others being Swartz and Swamp Creeks). Congdon Creek enters Lake Creek in T15S-R7W-S35, approximately one mile below Hult Pond, near the community of Horton. At one time there was a mill pond on Congdon Creek not far from its mouth, but the pond was removed some time ago. Headwaters arise on ridges separating the Congdon Creek drainage from Lobster Creek in the Alsea basin, and from upper Lake Creek.

The lowest portion of Congdon Creek passes an old mill pond and crosses the depositional zone of the Triangle Lake valley, with typical dirt banks and incised channel. Most of the lower 2 ½ miles flows across depositional materials of moderate slope in an unconfined valley. These conditions have created extensive areas of spawning and rearing habitat suitable for all species of resident and anadromous salmonids. In the upper reaches, the canyons narrow and the gradients increase, with a shift from the pool-riffle habitat of the lower part of the watershed to habitats dominated by rapids and cascades.

Congdon Creek has several major forks and tributaries that share the same habitat pattern of depositional valley in the lower end and steeper gradients in the upper reaches. Together, the mainstem and tributaries provide perhaps the best salmonid habitat of any stream in the Upper Lake Creek watershed.

The valley along most of the depositional areas is in private ownership, with several farms and residences. These private lands have narrow riparian areas of trees, mostly red alder, with extensive pastures. The rest of the watershed is managed primarily for forest products, with a mixture of private and public ownership. Riparian areas are dominated by red alder, with some young Douglas fir in the upper half of the stream system. While some patches of older trees remain, most of the forest in the watershed is in younger age classes as a result of past fires and harvest activities. An extensive road network, built for timber management activities, extends throughout the watershed, with a paved road paralleling Congdon Creek.

Since the construction of the fish ladder at Lake Creek Falls in 1989, anadromous fish have spawned in Congdon Creek. Coho and steelhead are the predominant users, but chinook have been reported in the lower reaches. In addition, the introduced kokanee in Triangle Lake use Congdon Creek for spawning, with numbers reported ODFW of more than 15,000 kokanee in one spawning run. Native cutthroat trout are present in Congdon Creek along with sculpins.

The Eugene District in 1982 built several small hand-built rock weirs in the upper part of the watershed. Most did not survive more than two years, but showed that structures in the stream could create good pockets of habitat.

In 1993, BLM joined with ODFW and private land owners in habitat restoration activities in Congdon Creek. Log structures, using mostly alder and small firs, and some boulders, were placed in Congdon Creek. Only a portion of the structures remained seven years later, although these do provide some good habitat. Some riparian restoration was completed at the same time. In addition, Willamette Industries carried out projects on two tributaries in Section 33 that improved passage through impassable culverts, allowing migrating fish to access over two miles of additional habitat.

Roads do not appear to have a major impact on the stream system, but should be reviewed for possible improvements. Several culverts block passage of fish on smaller headwater tributaries, and one bedrock area in Section 29 is at least a low water barrier, but no major barriers to anadromous fish migrations have been identified - Lake Creek Aquatic Habitat Management Plan (Armantrout 2000).

During the summer of 2001, the Eugene District BLM contracted with the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife to conduct extensive stream surveys in the Congdon Creek Basin (ODFW 2001). The proposed habitat restoration is contained within the third reach of this survey.

Reach 3 begins 100 meters downstream of Majors Creek Bridge and extends 1406 meters upstream. The stream channel is constrained by hillslopes in a moderate V-shaped valley. The average unit gradient is 2.4 percent. Stream habitat is dominated by riffles (29%), rapids (29%) and scour pools (27%). Total wood volume in the creek is low (10.4 meters cubed per 100 meters of stream channel).

The riparian zone is mix of conifers and hardwoods (3-50 cm dbh). Three riparian transects were performed. There are 366 recruitable conifers per 1000 feet of stream reach. Of these conifers, zero conifers are above 20" dbh / 1000 stream feet and zero conifers are above 35" dbh / 1000 stream feet. According to ODFW Benchmarked Habitat Elements (Oregon Watershed Assessment Manual), both these conifer conditions are undesirable. There are zero pieces of key large woody debris (pieces of large wood per 100m of stream length greater than 60cm diameter and greater than or equal to 10m in length) in the entire stream reach. According to ODFW Benchmarked Habitat Elements this condition is also undesirable. Hardwoods make up 76% of the recruitable large woody debris along the third reach.

South Fork Swartz Creek

South Fork Swartz Creek parallels the High Pass road along much of its length. It is blocked to fish migration a short distance above its junction with N. Fork Swartz Creek by an impassable culvert on Road 15-6-31. The culvert is adequate for peak stream flows but is unbaffled and has a drop at the end. For a number of years a beaver dam at the upper end of the culvert added a further block, but also created a 3-5 acre wetland. Two other culverts on the High Pass Road 3455 a mile upstream in NE 1/4NE1/4 of Section 31 are also partial to total barriers. Both are small with steep gradient inside the pipe. A fourth culvert on Road 15-6-31.2 is not a barrier, but is a failing log culvert partially collapsed on one end that creates a potential hazard. Road 15-6-31.2 has also had heavy OHV use in its lower reaches that created sediment inflow into South Fork Swartz.

South Fork Swartz in its first mile is flat, depositional unconfined floodplain. It has had extensive beaver activity, although the beavers appeared to have been trapped out in the late 90's. The beaver created excellent rearing habitat for coho and cutthroat although most of it was unreachable for coho. Because of beaver activity, trees were sparse along the stream in places, with extensive grass and brush development and red alder dominates. At the east end of Section 31 where the stream splits into three forks the forks all increase in gradient with a narrowing of the canyon bottom. Riffles and rapids replace larger pools as the dominant habitats.

Restoration activities include addressing culverts in the watershed that are currently barriers, reducing road sediment through rehabilitation or other steps, increasing channel complexity, and allowing beaver to re-establish in the watershed.

B. SPECIFIC RESOURCE DESCRIPTIONS

Wildlife

The proposed action area is comprised of Douglas fir dominated mixed forest of varying seral stages. No habitat for any federally listed or proposed terrestrial wildlife species would be modified by this proposed effort.

Habitat for spotted owls is present around the action area in scattered groves. There are no known spotted owl activity centers within 0.25 mile of the Congdon Creek Restoration Project (Sec. 29) and Swartz Creek Culvert Project 1 (Sec. 31). One known spotted owl activity center is located within 0.25 mile of Swartz Creek Culvert Project 2 (Sec. 31).

Scattered habitat for marbled murrelets is present around the action area. The nearest known site occupied by the marbled murrelet is located 0.75 mile to the west of the project area in section 29. No murrelet surveys have been conducted in the immediate vicinities of the action areas in sections 29 or 31.

No known bald eagle nests, roosts or Bald Eagle Habitat Areas (BEHAs) are

located within one mile of this proposed project.

Survey and Manage (S&M) mollusk species previously requiring surveys include the Oregon Megomphix (*Megomphix hemphilli*), papillose tailedropper (*Prophysaon dubbium*), and the blue-grey tailedropper (*Prophysaon coeruleum*). These species have been removed from the S&M list in the Coast Range Resource Area (USDA & USDI, 2001), and no longer require pre-project surveys. Consequently, no such surveys for these species were conducted.

Since no habitat for the red tree vole would be modified, no surveys for this S&M species is planned.

Other wildlife species known to occur in the vicinity can be found on table 3-54 of the Eugene District's Resource Management Plan (Nov, 1994)

Botany

Vascular plant surveys to protocol were conducted during the 2001 field season. No special status or Survey and Manage species were found.

Protocol surveys for Special Status bryophytes and lichens were done in October of 2001.

One Survey and Manage lichen species (*Chaenotheca furfuracea*) was found on a stump located within the Congdon Creek restoration area. *Chaenotheca furfuracea* is a Component F species. No management is required, only that the sites be documented and entered into the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS).

Noxious weeds and invasive species are present along many of the roads within the basin.

Recreation

The proposed Congdon Creek project in T15-R7W-Section 29 lies within the Upper Lake Creek Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). A Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) is currently being developed for this area but is not proposing, at this time, any developed recreational facilities within the proposed project site. Current recreational activities for all proposed sites includes dispersed activities such as, but not limited to, driving for pleasure, hunting, sightseeing, and OHV use. Sections 29 lies within Visual Resource Management (VRM) class III. The VRM III objective is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape.

The Swartz Creek culvert projects (T15-R6W-Section 31) are within VRM class IV. VRM IV objectives allow major modifications of the existing character of landscape. Recreation in this area includes dispersed activities.

Geology/Soils

Congdon Creek is geologically mapped within the Flourney/Tyee Formation that consists of massive and rhythmically bedded feldspathic and micaceous sandstone and subordinate siltstone. Each bed is graded and ranges from coarse sandstone at the base to fine sandstone and siltstone above. The Prairie Peak ridgeline to the north of Congdon Creek is composed of sheets, sills and dikes of mafic intrusions of basalt rock (Walker and Macleod, 1991).

High-risk sites for landslides exist in the Coast Range and because of the steep slopes along the Congdon drainage, many landslides have historically occurred. Inventories on BLM lands have identified some areas as potentially unstable based on field indicators and factor of safety modeling. These areas have been withdrawn from management activities using the Timber Production Capability Classification (TPCC) FGNW. FGNW = slope gradient, withdrawn.

The TPCC classifications in the Congdon Creek restoration area include FWR and RLR. FWR = fragile, groundwater, restricted; RLR = inadequate light. These categories are mapped in the area and provide guidance for timber management. The classes are an indication that problem reforestation could occur and additional site preparation and/or treatments could be necessary to achieve target stocking levels.

Soils in the area have developed predominantly from sedimentary rocks and are deep, permeable and productive. Site Index for the soils in the area ranges between 120 and 180 (SCS, 1987). This area is located within the udic-mesic moisture regime and is generally in the Bohannon-Digger-Preacher Soil Association. Typically, this map unit consists of 40% Bohannon soils, 25% Digger and 20% Preacher. Some of the soil series associated with these soils include Peavine, Honeygrove, Klickitat and Blachly. Because permeability is rapid in many of the Coast Range soils, the soils tend to have rapid runoff and a high hazard of water erosion, particularly on steep slopes. Vegetation, slope, soil texture, soil infiltration rates and climate are the most important influences on the erosion hazards of a site and a variety of these combinations exist in the Coast Range and contribute to a naturally high background erosion rate. In general, background erosion rates are documented to be two to four times higher in the Coast Range than in the Cascade Range (Larson and Sidle, 1980).

The Bohannon soil series are loamy, very porous and depth to weathered bedrock ranges from 20 to 40 inches and is easily compacted. Digger soils range from shallow to moderately deep, are well-drained, loamy soils that are stony and porous. Preacher soils are loamy clays that are well drained, moderately permeable and easily compacted. The Honeygrove series are deep, red, well-drained, silty clay loams that are easily compacted. Depth to bedrock ranges between 60 to 100 inches. The Peavine series consists of moderately deep, well-

drained, red, silty clay loam soils that are easily compacted, with depths to bedrock ranging from 40 to 50 inches. Blachly soils are clay loams with effective rooting depths to 60 inches and are easily compacted.

The soil temperatures remain warm and moist through late spring and early summer in the Coast Range and that favors the oxidation of the soluble form of iron, a basic constituent of the parent sandstone and intrusive rocks of the area. With high precipitation, excess amounts of moisture move through the soil profile removing soluble products of the weathering processes, but stranding the iron which produces soils in the area that are red, such as Honeygrove soils.

V. DIRECT OR INDIRECT EFFECTS

A. UNAFFECTED RESOURCES

The following resources are either not present or would not be adversely affected by the proposed action or any of the alternatives: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, regional or local air quality, prime or unique farmlands, cultural resources, floodplains, environmental justice, native American religious concerns, hazardous or solid waste, wild and scenic rivers or wilderness. Water quality, riparian zones, and the habitat of the threatened coho salmon are expected to benefit from the proposed actions.

B. EXPECTED IMPACTS

All proposed actions would require some short-term disturbance to the edge of the road prism, riparian zone, or stream channel. All actions are in areas that have previously been disturbed by management activities. No new roads would be created as a result of the proposed actions, although temporary accesses would be needed for movement of equipment and materials from existing permanent roads to restoration sites in the stream channel.

Adverse Impacts include a transient increase in sediment from culvert removal/rehabilitation, road stabilization and channel structuring; and potential disturbance of fishes, invertebrates, and aquatic communities in the stream channel during culvert rehabilitation and channel structuring.

The impacts to vegetative characteristics associated with individual fisheries structures are expected to be relatively low except in access routes used to move materials from roadways to the stream channel. Roding and tree yarding would result in soil disturbance and compaction, and would increase the likelihood of non-native and potentially noxious species entering and/or increasing in the project area. Surface soil disturbance may also result in disruption of soil dwelling fungal hyphae that play an important role in nutrient cycling and decomposition. Suggested botanical mitigation measures under the *Mitigating Measures* section following should help alleviate the potential for the increase or

spread of non-native species, and high levels of mycorrhizal disturbance.

Large woody debris is lacking along this reach of Congdon Creek. A main reason for declines in the suitability of habitat to support anadromous fish populations is thought to be the loss of structure and gravels. Restoration activities are centered on increasing channel structure. Placement of boulder and log structures would accumulate gravels and provide desirable habitat. Targeted species would be steelhead, coho, kokanee and native cutthroat trout.

As a result of the placement of structures in the stream, water surface levels would be raised at all flow levels. During peak flows more water would flow into riparian areas. Project designs limit the potential for stream bank erosion. The flooding of riparian areas provides a positive benefit for deposition of silts in riparian areas and increased groundwater infiltration. The projects are expected to contribute to an overall improvement in water quality.

There could be some temporary disruption in dispersed recreational activities during project construction time, such as traffic controls or temporary road closures until the work is completed. Road No. 15-6-31.2 has already been blocked but not effectively. Determined OHV users may be surprised to see “reinforcement” of this already blocked road. Overall, there would be little impact to dispersed recreation.

It is anticipated that there would be little impact to the VRM classes due to the management classification of VRM within the project area and the nature of the project proposals themselves.

C. PROPOSED ACTION

ISSUE 1: Effects on Attainment of ACS Objectives

To attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) objectives within the proposed Riparian Reserves specific management actions that are consistent with the Lake Creek Watershed Analysis have been included in the Proposed Action. The following is a site specific analysis of the effects of the Proposed Action on the attainment of the ACS objectives:

Objective 1: The Proposed Action would maintain and contribute to the restoration of the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape features. The placement of structural materials in the channel will help to replace lost habitat necessary for all life cycles of salmonid and other indigenous aquatic species. Large woody debris (LWD) or key piece placements will help maintain future formations of back-water areas, deep rearing habitat (pools), off-channel and high flow refuges, and key spawning habitats. In addition, key piece placements will provide locations for the collection of additional woody debris (jam formation) that lead to increased channel

complexity. The proposed riparian action to increase the percentage of conifers in the riparian area would improve future ODFW benchmark values of large woody material in the channel, and snags and woody debris in the riparian area.

Objective 2: The Proposed Action would help restore the spatial and temporal connectivity within and between watersheds because of the proposed barrier culvert removal/replacements. Barrier removals will allow all aquatic species to move in an unobstructed fashion to and from species specific habitats in the watershed that have not been available for decades. In channel log and boulder placements will help to restore the connectivity of the stream channel with the riparian in areas that are currently channel confined and downcut. Restored areas of connectivity may once again function as water storage areas during critical low flow summer months, help reduce water temperatures and function as a water filter.

Objective 3: The Proposed Action would maintain and contribute to the restoration of the physical integrity of the aquatic systems. The addition of log and boulder structures to degraded stream reaches will help the aggregation process, particularly in areas of bedrock dominance. The addition of these structures will also slow high stream velocities that may lead to unwanted scour.

Objective 4: The Proposed Action would maintain the water quality necessary to support healthy riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems. In channel log and boulder placements would help to restore the connectivity of the stream channel with the riparian in areas that are currently channel confined and downcut. Restored areas of connectivity may once again function as water storage areas during critical low flow summer months, help reduce water temperatures and function as a water filter.

Objective 5: The Proposed Action would maintain and contribute to the restoration of the sediment regime under which this aquatic ecosystem evolved. Degraded habitats within the proposed project reaches lacking in channel structure that prevent normal capture and distribution of sediments would benefit from in stream structural placements. The movement of logs and boulders (during the summer months) from roadside staging areas to the stream channel could result in the short term production of a minor amount of sediment in the event of a summer rain storm, but would only have negligible, short term effects on the riparian.

Objective 6: The Proposed Action would not have a negative effect on in-stream flows influencing the riparian and aquatic habitats in the proposed project area as related to retaining patterns of sediment, nutrient, and wood routing. Log and boulder placements will contribute to the slowing of stream flows and dissipation of stream energies associated with high flows in degraded habitat areas during periods of sediment transfer and deposition and also help to restore the connectivity of the stream channel with the riparian (recharge riparian aquifers) in areas that are currently channel confined and downcut. The extent of the effect on

flow related to evapotranspiration and interception and to removal of some hardwoods from and planting of young conifers (proposed access routes) in the riparian is not certain but expected to be negligible.

Objective 7: The Proposed Action would maintain and contribute to the restoration of the timing, variability, and duration of floodplain inundation. The proposed placement of structural materials should increase the amount and period of water storage in the project area. No wetlands or meadows have been identified in the project area.

Objective 8: The Proposed Action would contribute to the restoration of the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities and habitat to support well distributed populations of some riparian dependant species as related to requirements of riparian ground water storage, nutrient filtering, interaction between surface flows and ground water storage that create optimal soil moisture conditions for riparian vegetation. The proposed placement of structural materials should increase the amount and period of water storage in the proposed project area.

Objective 9: The Proposed Action would maintain and contribute to the restoration of habitat to support well-distributed populations of many riparian dependant species by providing an immediate supply of channel structure (log and boulder habitat) to the stream. The placement of structural materials in the channel will help to replace lost habitat necessary for all life cycles of salmonid and other indigenous aquatic species. Large woody debris (LWD) or key piece placements will help maintain future formations of back-water areas, deep rearing habitat (pools), off-channel and high flow refuges, and key spawning habitats. In addition, key piece placements will provide locations for the collection of additional woody debris (jam formation) that lead to increased channel complexity.

Based on the above analysis of the effect on attainment of the ACS objectives, the Proposed Action is consistent with the ACS and the objectives for the Riparian Reserves, and would not prevent or retard attainment of any of the ACS objectives.

ISSUE 2: Effects on Special Status Species

Wildlife

As previously mentioned, no habitat for any federally listed or proposed terrestrial species would be modified by this proposed action. Because one known spotted owl activity center is located within 0.25 mile of Swartz Creek Culvert Project 2 (Sec. 31), there is some concern regarding audio disturbance during the critical nesting period for this species. This site is subjected to annual spotted owl surveys, and if it is determined any owls are nesting within 0.25 mile of the

proposed sites (or would otherwise be disturbed by construction activities), appropriate mitigation measures would be pursued.

A site confirmed to be occupied by marbled murrelets is located approximately 0.75 mile from the proposed work sites. Since no marbled murrelet surveys have been conducted at these sites, and scattered patches of suitable habitat exists within 0.25 mile, there is a possibility this species may be nesting in the vicinity. To alleviate audio disturbance to these birds (if present), operation of machinery would not be able to commence until two hours after sunrise and must cease two hours prior to sunset. This timing restriction would remain in place from April 1 through September 15 in any given year and would only be required if disturbing activities fall within 0.25 mile of suitable habitat.

Since no habitat for the red tree vole would be modified, and no impacts to this species are anticipated, no surveys for this S&M species is planned.

No known bald eagle nests, roosts or Bald Eagle Habitat Areas (BEHAs) are located within one mile of this proposed project.

Although the proposed action may result in altering daily routines of some other wildlife species, it is not expected to adversely impact their overall lifestyle or survivability.

Botany

Chaenotheca furfuracea; No disturbance to the stump within the Congdon Creek restoration area would take place as part of the action. There would be no effect on this species.

ISSUE 3: Effects on Attainment of Late-Successional and Riparian Reserve Objectives

The proposed action of planting cedars along access routes, would increase the presence of minor conifer species within the RR and LSR, provide the opportunity for establishment of tree species diversity and would increase the amount of coarse woody debris in the long term. The planting of conifers in surveyed project reaches that are lacking in potential recruitable LWD would help to establish this need even though it will take decades before these planting are useful as LWD.

D. ALTERNATIVE 2 - Congdon Habitat Site

ISSUE 1: Effects on Attainment of ACS Objectives

Alternative 2 includes management within the Riparian Reserve similar to the Proposed Action and would have similar effects on most of the ACS Objectives.

However, attainment of Objective 2 would not be achieved because the obstruction (Swartz Creek Culvert Project 1) would continue to prevent upstream migration of most aquatic species.

ISSUE 2: Effects on Special Status Species

Effects to wildlife and botanical species under this alternative would be expected to be the same as in the Proposed Alternative except that there would not be any effects to wildlife in the Swartz Creek area. Audio disturbance impacts to spotted owls and murrelets would be reduced as a result of this alternative.

ISSUE 3: Effects on Attainment of Late-Successional and Riparian Reserve Objectives

Alternative 2 is expected to have similar effects on LSR and Riparian Reserve objectives as the proposed action. As identified with Issue 2 above, connectivity of the aquatic system would not be restored with this alternative and the Swartz Creek Culvert Project 1 would continue to prevent upstream migration.

E. Alternative 3 - No Action Alternative

Under a No Action Alternative, no additional actions would be taken to increase stream structure, remove barrier culverts, restore riparian areas or stabilize roads. Culvert and road work already occur as part of the district road maintenance program. However, the emphasis would be on road stability and not on assisting with recovery of the aquatic system and its associated fauna. Under the No Action alternative, no stream channel restoration would be done, and riparian restoration would be primarily associated with vegetation manipulation carried out for other purposes. Both the stream and riparian habitats would be expected to show only very gradual recovery over a much longer period of time as a result of management actions taken under this alternative. There would be no impacts to wildlife either through habitat modification or disturbance. The areas proposed for treatments would continue to function as they have in the past.

VI. MITIGATING MEASURES

The following mitigating measures have been identified:

1. Guidelines established for timing of stream enhancement work by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) would be adopted. Changes to the guidelines would be in concurrence with BLM and ODFW.
2. To prevent the further spread of noxious weeds, cleaning of heavy equipment would be required prior to entering project areas.

3. Roading of heavy equipment would be kept to a minimum in project areas to prevent the spread of noxious weeds.
4. At project sites retain as much coarse woody material (including stumps) as possible.
5. If funding is available, non-native blackberry plants (Himalayan and evergreen) and scotch broom would be pulled within project areas prior to equipment move-in (at road closure projects) and in the year after project implementation to prevent further spread.
6. If needed, to help maintain the existing native plant communities, access routes would be seeded with native species mixtures. If native seed is not available and seeding is necessary for erosion control, an annual (70%) and perennial (30%) rye mixture would be used with strict guidelines on seed purity.
7. All tree falling would occur away from BLM Special Status and Survey and Manage sites.
8. No prescribed burning, tree planting, salvage logging, or other human disturbances would occur in BLM Special Status and Survey and Manage sites.
9. When working in or next to the stream channel, spill kits and an approved spill containment plan would be included in operations.
10. To reduce the potential for introduction of silt or petroleum products, when stream depth and channel conditions allow, use of a by-pass or retaining basin may be adopted.
11. Terms and conditions for riparian and instream work as described in the Programmatic Biological Assessment/Biological Opinion for the Oregon Coast Range Province as related to the Coastal Coho Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) would be followed.
12. If needed, restored project areas would be hydro-mulched. Native or sterile straw bales (or an acceptable substitute) would be used for erosion controls as directed by the contracting officer.
13. Petroleum products, chemicals, or other deleterious materials would be prevented from entering the stream.
14. As stated in the special conditions section of Fill Permit No. FP-23692 :
Turbidity shall not exceed 10% above natural stream turbidities as a result of the project. The turbidity standard may be exceeded for a limited duration, (per OAR 340-41) provided all practicable erosion control measures have been implemented as applicable.
15. Activities associated with projects within 0.25 miles of suitable murrelet habitat would not begin until 2 hours after sunrise and shall end 2 hours before sunset. This restriction

would be in effect from July 1 through September 15.

16. When possible, to avoid disrupting deep stream channel substrate during placement of LWD and boulders, utilize heavy equipment with an articulating head that will allow for the placements from one location adjacent to the project area. Heavy equipment with a bucket and thumb set up or similar device, that can not effectively place materials from outside the stream channel (when deep gravel habitats are present) would be prohibited.

VII. CRITICAL HABITAT

Congdon Creek is critical habitat for the Oregon Coast coho salmon. Determination of effects for critical habitat are the same as the determination of effects for restoration activities under the Programmatic Biological Assessment and Biological Opinion of June 4th 1999 and are covered by the same biological assessment and biological opinion as extended in the NMFS letter of December 21, 2001 (Ref # OSB2001-0217-PC-RI).

This proposed restoration project would not impact Critical Habitat of the northern spotted owl or the marbled murrelet.

VIII. ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

Programmatic Consultation has been completed for Essential Fish Habitat in the Lake Creek drainage for Oregon Coast Coho Salmon and Oregon Coast Chinook Salmon dated July 2, 2001 (OSB2001-0070-IEC).

Coho salmon use Congdon Creek for migration, spawning and rearing. The proposed project is in the ESU for the federally-listed threatened Coastal coho salmon. Coho salmon use here and in the Lake Creek basin has declined recently due to a reduction in available spawning and rearing habitat and habitat disconnection caused by undersized barrier culverts. Chinook salmon may use the lower stream reaches of Congdon Creek for migration and spawning.

IX. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Prior to implementation of instream project work a photographic and descriptive record is made of existing habitats in project areas. Pre project inventories are generally conducted in proposed enhancement reaches by BLM, but have been completed in 1999 by the ODFW (a cooperator/contractor). When possible, project locations are identified using Global Positioning System (GPS). Collected GPS data is then added to the District GIS data system. Pre-work sampling to estimate current juvenile salmonid and other fish species populations is conducted in selected habitats using seining/electrofishing and/or snorkeling. For project areas used by anadromous salmonids, spawning counts conducted for up to 15 years provide a baseline for pre- and post-project comparison. Post project photographs are taken to show completed work and adjacent habitat prior to exposure to stream flow extremes. Successive photos are taken to document changes in project

stability and effects on adjoining riparian and stream habitats. Spawning ground counts are continued in established index areas. Juvenile sampling, using snorkeling and electrofishing, is used to document use of structures. Information is also generally collected on non salmonid fish species both before and after project work. Reference macroinvertebrate samples may be collected at some project sites. Tree survival and growth are documented in riparian restoration access areas during at least the first five years following planting. Disturbance areas are monitored for invasive non-native plant species.

X. CONTRIBUTORS

The following Bureau of Land Management specialists have examined the Proposed Action and have provided either written or verbal input in this assessment:

Leo Poole	BLM Fisheries Biologist
Neil Armantrout	BLM Fisheries Biologist/Senior Staff Specialist
Graham Armstrong	BLM Hydrologist
Karin Baitis	BLM Soil Scientist
Dan Crannell	BLM Wildlife Biologist
Gary Hoppe	BLM Landscape Planner
Cheshire Mayrsohn	BLM Botanist
Saundra Miles	BLM Recreation Planner
Mike Southard	BLM Archeology/Senior Staff Specialist
Mark Stephen	BLM Forest Ecologist
Rob Preece	BLM Fisheries Technician

XI. CONSULTATION and COORDINATION

1. Private Lands. ODFW and Willamette Ind. were contacted concerning a possible stream habitat restoration project on private land. The proposed project area is above Majors Creek Bridge and ends at the 28/29 section boundary. Due to the tentative change in ownership of the property, any plans would be postponed until coordination with Weyerhaeuser.
2. Sensitive/Threatened Species. BLM has completed an inventory of resident and anadromous fish species on Federal lands within the project area that are classified as threatened or candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Project areas have been surveyed for Special Status and Survey and Manage species (categories A and C) using current protocols.

Wildlife

The Programmatic Biological Assessment addressing disturbance and this proposal related to Federally listed or proposed terrestrial animals was submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on December 15, 2000. Because of

the potential for audio disturbance to marbled murrelets and spotted owls during the critical nesting period, this proposed action “May Affect” these species. If the Proposed Action is conducted after August 5, 2002 the proposal would “Not Likely Adversely Affect (NLAA)” both the spotted owl and the marbled murrelet, and if the project occurs between July 7 and August 5, 2002 the call would be NLAA for the owl, but still Likely to Adversely Affect for the murrelet. The USFWS response, in the form of a Biological Opinion, is expected prior to on ground work. This action would not take place prior to the issuance of this Opinion. Activities associated with projects within 0.25 miles of suitable murrelet habitat would not begin until 2 hours after sunrise and shall end 2 hours before sunset. Any additional mitigation measures required in this BO would be followed.

Coho

The proposed actions are consistent with the description and terms and conditions under the Programmatic Biological *Assessment and Biological Opinion for Ongoing USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management Activities Affecting Oregon Coast Range Province, Oregon* for the Oregon Coast coho salmon and designated “Critical Habitat” issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - June 4, 1999 and extended on December 21, 2001 (OSB2001-0217-PC-RI).

3. Cultural Resources. No cultural resources have been identified to date in the actual project locations. All required cultural resource reviews have been completed. The Congdon Creek project is within the Oregon Coast Range physiographic province and the terms of Protocol D as defined in the National Programmatic Agreement in Oregon (USDI, 1998) apply.

4. Wild and Scenic Rivers. In the 1995 Eugene District Resource Management Plan (RMP) portions of the Siuslaw River were found as eligible for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The primary outstanding resource values were anadromous fisheries, wildlife and recreation. The proposed action project areas in Congdon Creek are not located in designated Wild and Scenic Rivers areas within the Siuslaw River Basin.

5. Navigability. Congdon Creek and its tributaries are not recognized by BLM as navigable.

6. State and County Land Use. Aquatic and riparian habitat restoration was found in the District RMP to be compatible with existing State and County land use laws. The proposed actions are compatible with the Coastal Zone Management plans and goals.

7. Permits. All required permits would be obtained prior to the beginning of

project work. The majority of restoration activities would require only ODFW and State Lands waiver permits. Some of the structures may exceed 50 cubic yards of fill and would require permitting through the State Lands-Corps of Engineers excavation and fill permitting process. The proposed project work is covered by State Lands permit, FP-23692, issued on June 19, 2001.

REFERENCE

Armantrout, Neil B. 2000. Lake Creek Aquatic Habitat Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. USDI Bureau of Land Management, Eugene District, Eugene, OR 79pp.

Larson, K.R. and R.C. Sidle. 1980. Erosion and Sedimentation Data Catalog of the Pacific Northwest. Dept of Forest Engineering, Oregon State University. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Portland Oregon.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife July 2001. Aquatic inventory project report - Congdon Creek (contracted by and prepared for the Eugene District BLM).

Oregon Department of State Lands and US Army Corps of Engineers. June 19, 2001. Joint fill/removal authorization. Permit number FP-23692 Renewal. 4pp.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management. June 1995. Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan. Eugene District Office, Eugene, Oregon.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management. June 1995. Lake Creek Watershed Analysis. Eugene District Office, Eugene, Oregon.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management. August 1998. Protocol for managing cultural resources on lands administered by the BLM in Oregon. Oregon State Office, Portland, Oregon. 20pp.

USDA, Forest Service and USDI, Bureau of Land Management. February 1994. Final supplemental environmental impact statement on management of habitat for late successional and old-growth forest related species within the range of the northern spotted owl (Northwest Forest Plan).

USDA, Forest Service and USDI, Bureau of Land Management. April 1994. Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land management Planning Documents within the range of the Northern Spotted Owl.

USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management. January 2001. Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines.

Walker G.W., Macleod N.S. 1991. Geological Map of Oregon. U.S.G.S.

Watershed Professionals Network. 1998. Oregon watershed Assessment Manual. Salem, OR: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

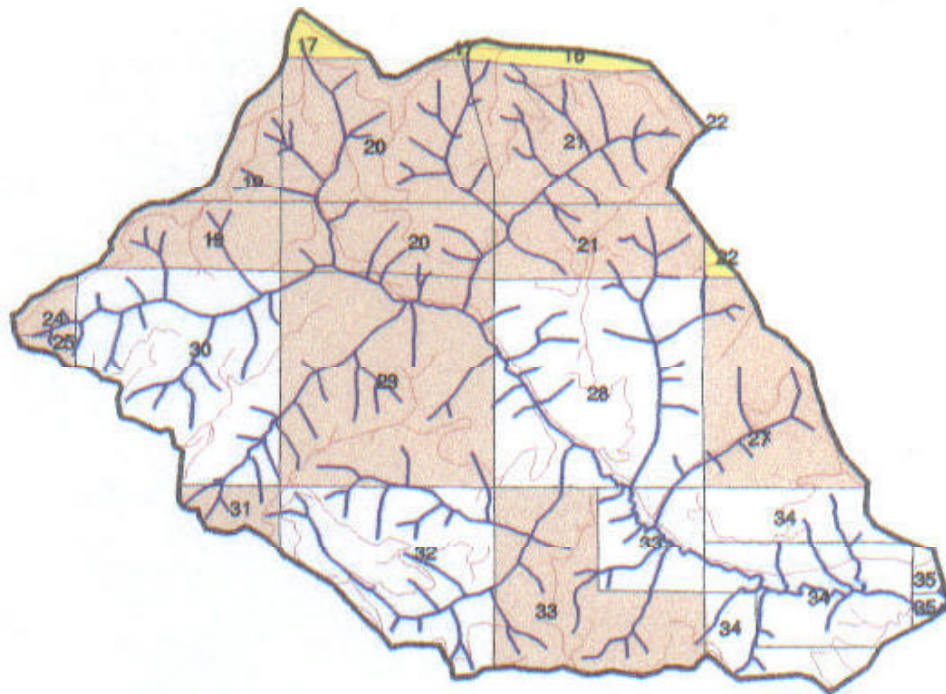







Stream Enhancement Project Congdon Creek Drainage

R. 7 W.



T. 15 S.



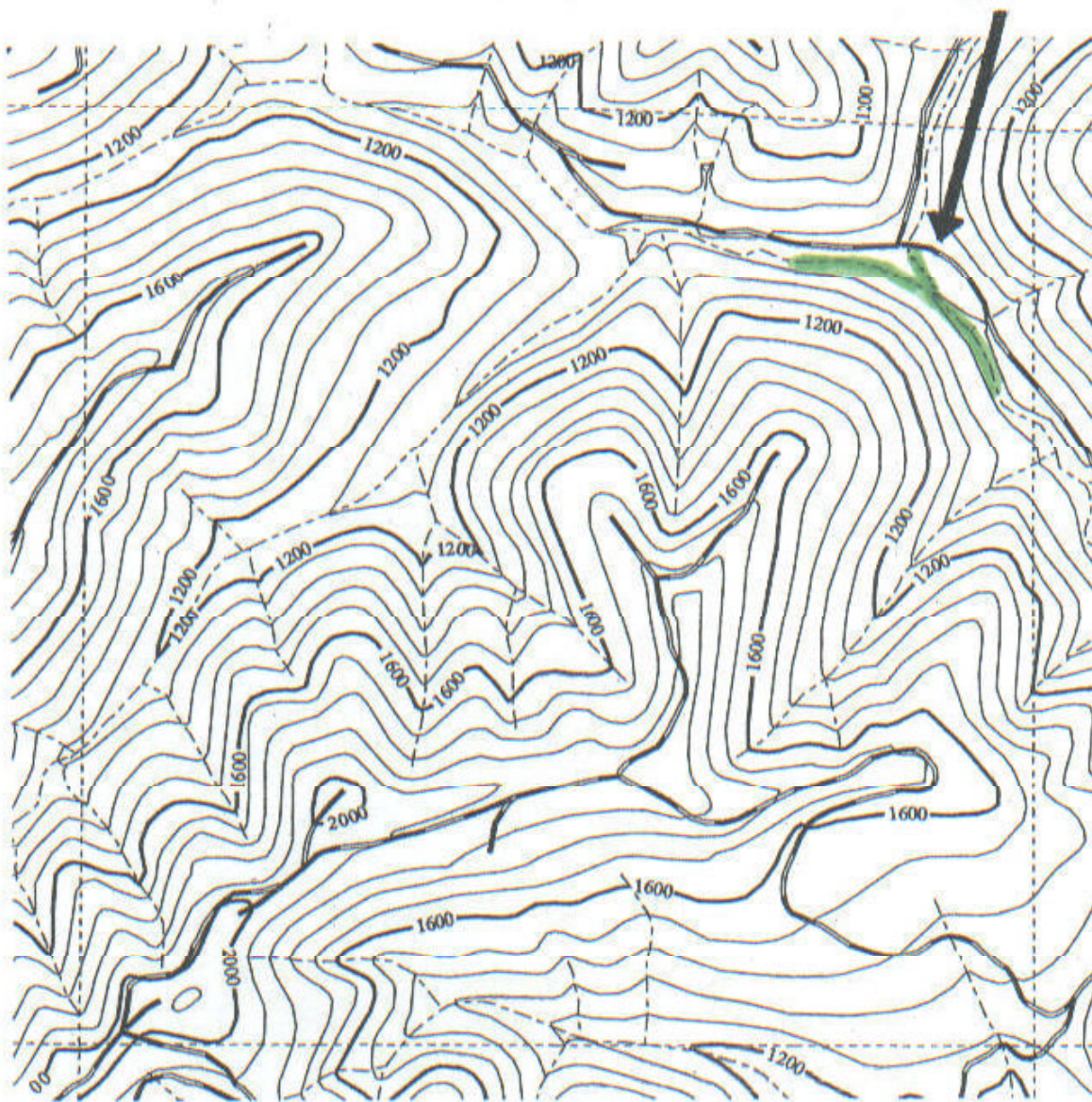
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-  General Forest Management
-  roads
-  streams
-  drainage boundary

Scale 1:56000

No warranty is made by the B.L.M for the use of this data not intended by B.L.M

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Congdon Creek Aquatic Restoration Project

--- BLM
Streams
— Roads

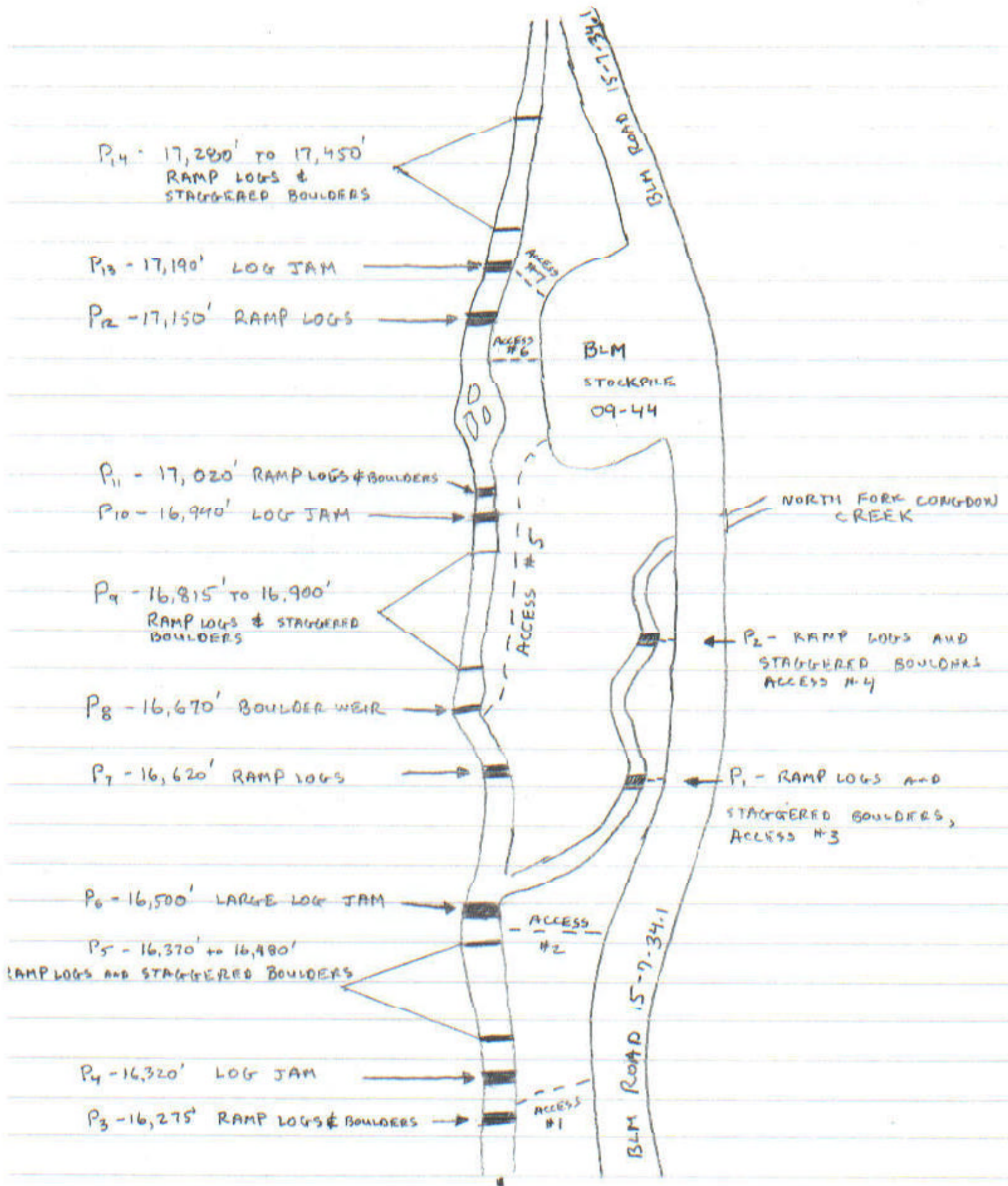
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ATTACHMENT C

CONGDON CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT MAP



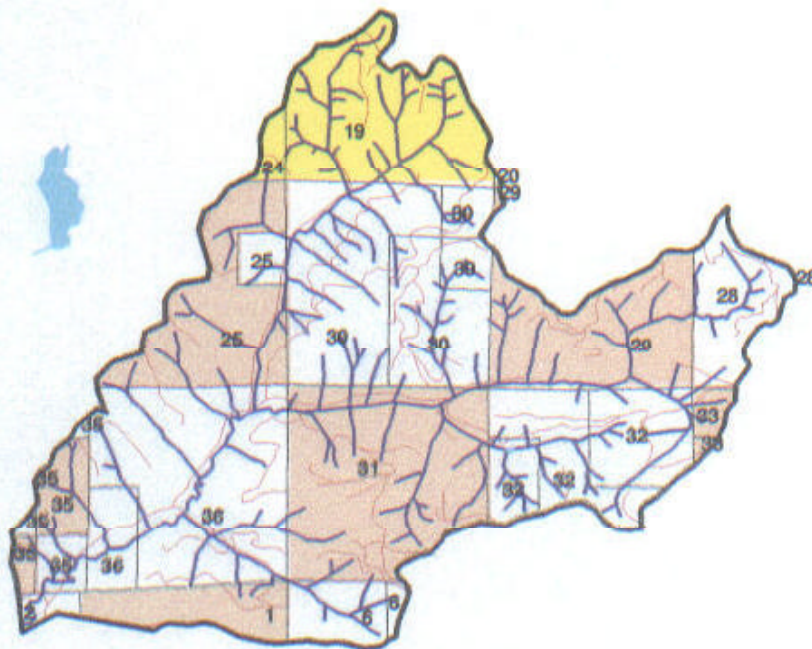


Culvert Projects Swartz Creek Drainage

R. 6 W.



T. 15 S.



- Late Successional Reserve
- General Forest Management
- roads
- streams
- drainage boundary

Scale 1:56000

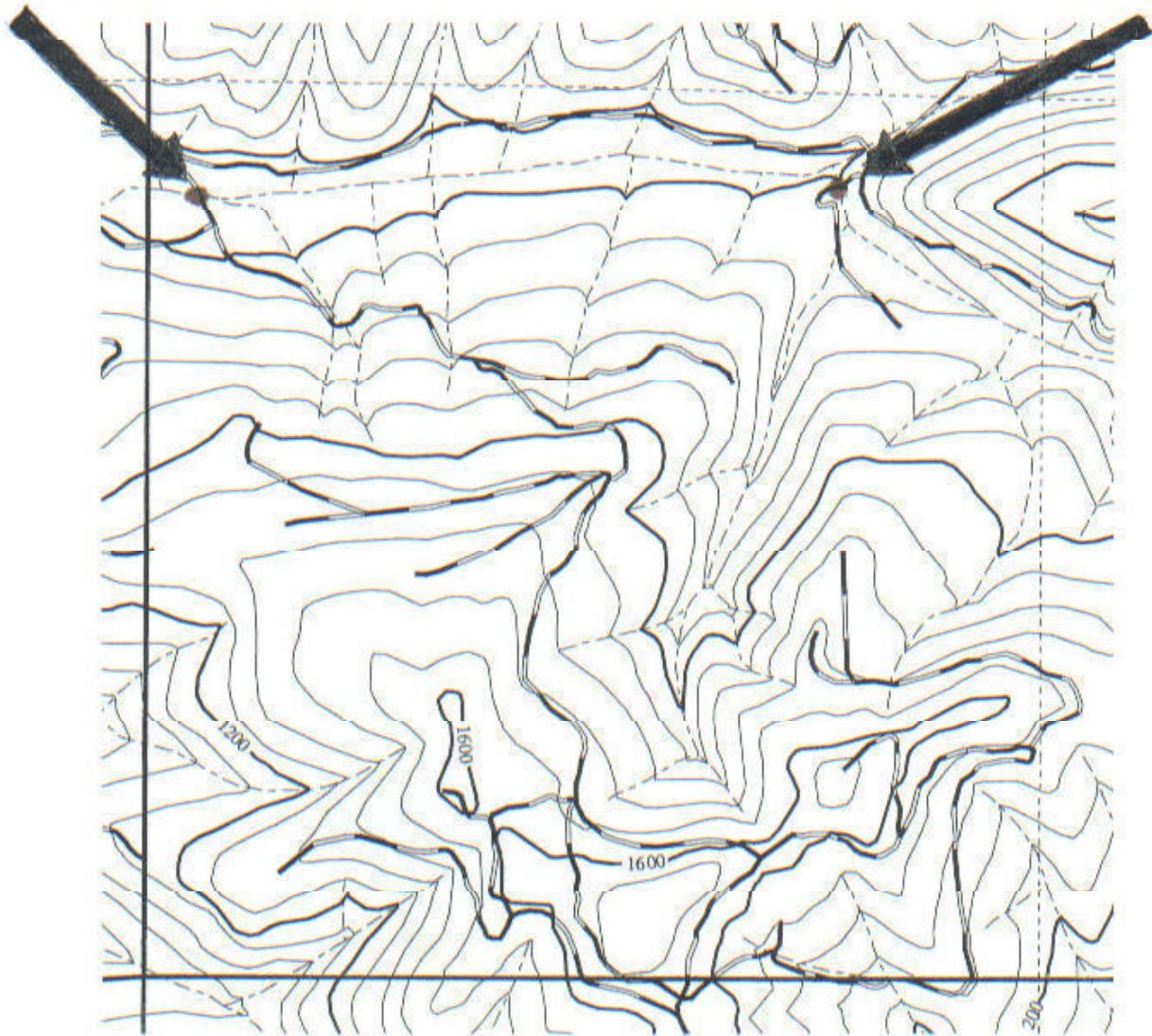
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Culvert Project 1

Culvert Project 2



Swartz Creek Culvert Projects

--- BLM
Streams
— Roads

T.15S, R.06W. Sec. 31
Contour Interval: 80 Ft

Scale 1:12000
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Feet



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE**

Preliminary
Finding of No Significant Impact
for

CONGDON CREEK AQUATIC HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT No. OR090-EA-02-12

Determination:

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the proposed action or alternatives will not have significant environmental impacts beyond those already addressed in the *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (April 1994), and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (June 1995) as amended by the *Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management January 2001*, with which this EA is in conformance, and does not, in and of itself, constitute a major federal action having a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement or a supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.